



## Perkasie TCE Assessment Bucks County, Pennsylvania

### INVESTIGATION BEGINS!



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 3

September 2003

#### The Perkasie TCE assessment...

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will take soil, soil-vapor and groundwater samples in Perkasie, Pennsylvania. Due to past industrial activities in the area, EPA is testing primarily for trichloroethylene (TCE). The testing will help find out:

- If there is TCE contamination.
- Is TCE moving from the sampling area, and if so, then how?
- Where, how much, and at what concentrations TCE exists? And most importantly...
- If there is a risk to human health and the environment.

EPA will work together with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry during this investigation.

#### What you may notice...

Workers will be taking notes, photographs and samples. They may be wearing protective gear, such as coveralls, hardhats, gloves, and breathing masks.

#### Schedule...

Work will last two to four days. When the sample collection is finished, and the data from the samples is complete, EPA will hold a public information session with the community to:

- ✓ Show the sample results
- ✓ Discuss any potential health risks
- ✓ Determine if any cleanup activities are necessary

#### What is TCE, and how can people be affected by it...

##### TCE is:

- ✓ A nonflammable, colorless liquid.
- ✓ Is used mainly as a solvent to remove grease from metal parts.
- ✓ An ingredient in adhesives, paint removers, typewriter correction fluids, and spot removers.

##### TCE can enter the body by:

- Breathing in TCE vapors from contaminated soil and/or water
- By drinking, swimming or showering in TCE-contaminated water; and
- By skin contact while manufacturing TCE products or using them at work to wash paint or grease from skin or equipment

Long-term exposure to TCE may cause liver and kidney damage, damage to the immune system, and possible birth defects.



Example of Geoprobe soil sampling.

## More Information...

If you have questions about this project,  
please call:

Richard Rupert  
EPA On-Scene Coordinator  
(215) 814-2879

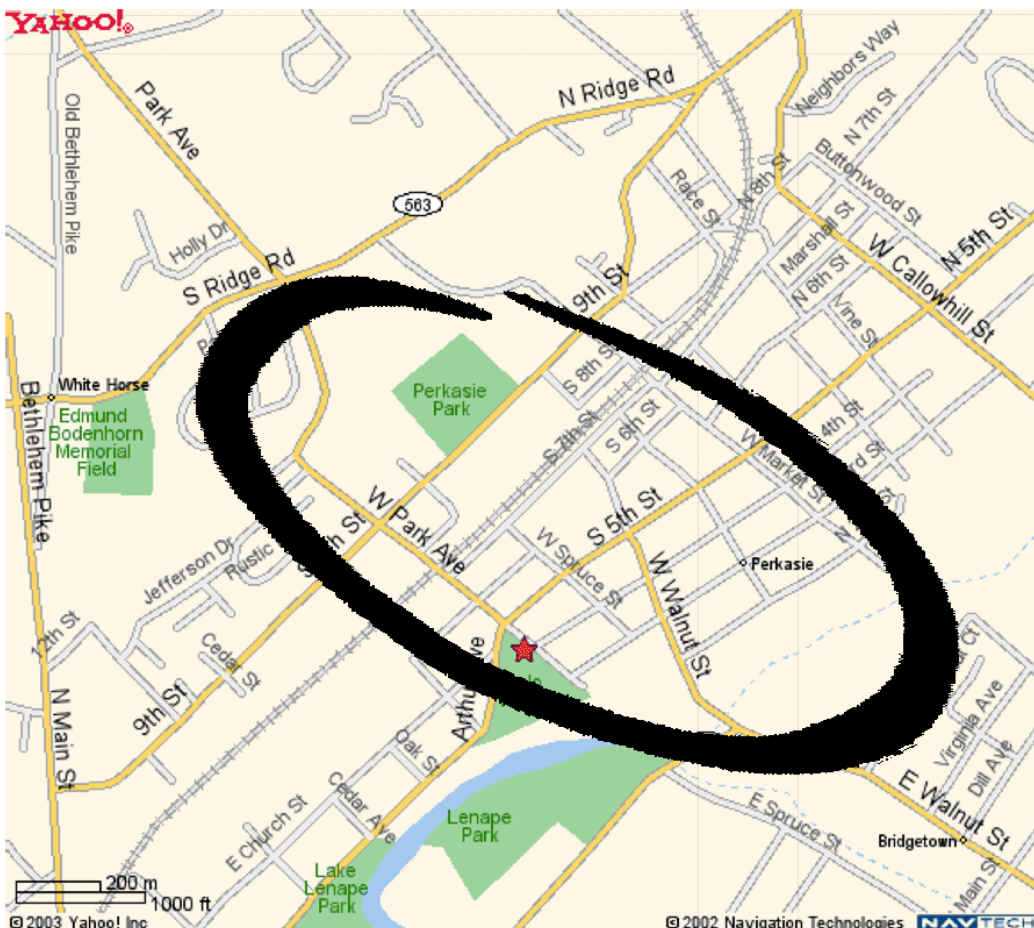
Trish Taylor  
EPA Community Involvement Coordinator  
(215) 814-5539

For health-related information on TCE, please  
contact:

Bucky Walters  
ATSDR Regional Representative  
(215) 814-3139



Truck mounted Geoprobe (direct push) rig is preparing to collect samples. This is an example of the type of equipment you might see during this assessment.



General  
Sampling Area

